the area and conducted rads on suspected hide-outs.

Efforts to pursuade the terrorists to release Shri Doraiswamy are con-

Meeting of Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan

585. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met on Sunday 30th June, 1991, to prepare a joint plan of action to be pursued at the ensuring SAARC Standing Committee Meeting which was held on 2nd July, 1991;

(b) if so, the details of the plan of action worked out therein; and

(c) the action since taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Investment in the area of Electronic Switching

586. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Chambers of Commerce and Industry have pleaded that Government allow foreign investment with an export commitment in the area of electronic switching; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NADU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Teachers of Punjabi University, Patiala, arrested after the death of Rajiv Gandhi

587. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teachers of Punjabi University, Patiala arrested just after the death of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India;

(b) what were the charges against the arrested teachers; and

(c) when they were released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M. JACOB): (a) to (c) According to information received *from the Government of Punjab, Prof.* Sukh Dayal Singh and Prof. Surat Singh of the Punjabi University. Patiala, having links with the AISSF were arrested just after the assassination of the former Prime Minister. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, for raising anti-national slogans in the university. They were released on June 20 and June 25th 1991, respectively.

Private Sector Participation in Tele ommunications

588. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek active private sector participation in telecommunications; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) Yes Sir.